

Application No.: 10/612,631
Amdt dated: April 24, 2007
Reply to Office action of January 26, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is in response to the Office action dated January 26, 2007. Claims 1-25 are canceled without prejudice, disclaimer and/or in view of the rejections. Claims 26, 28, 30-35, 39-44 and 46 have been amended and not narrowed. Claims 26-47 are pending in this application.

Claim Objections

On page 2 of the action, claims 26 and 28 are objected to because of the following informalities: On lines 10-11 of Claim 26 and lines 6 and 8 of Claim 28 it reads "first mating" and should just be – mating –. Claim 26 has been amended to replace "first mating" with "mating" and claim 28 has been amended to replace "first protrusion" with "protrusion". Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Also on page 2 of the action, claims 30-32, 34-35, 39-41, 43-44 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In these claims it is indefinite as to which element (protrusion, standing portion, mating window and mating hole) belongs to which interlocking member (first or second) or both. Claims 30-32, 34-35, 39-41, 43-44 and 46 have been amended to provide "of one of the first interlocking member and the second interlocking member" after the corresponding protrusion, standing portion, mating window and mating hole term.

On page 3 of the action, the action indicates that claims 33 and 42 recite the limitation "the assembly" in line 1 of both Claims 33 and 42. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Claims 33 and 42 have been amended to remove "the assembly" term. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the

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rejection to the claims 30-35, 39-44 and 46 are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Also on page 3 of the action, Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 26-29, 36-38, 45 and 47 are allowed over the prior art and the claims 30-35, 39-44 and 46 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 26-47 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner should have any remaining questions or objections, a telephone interview to discuss and resolve these issues is respectfully requested.

Sincerely

APPLIED MEDICAL RESOURCES

BY



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